

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 748

EXDIS

ANKARA FOR SECRETARY FROM BUFFUM

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR UNSC CY TU

SUBJ: CYPRUS IN SC: ASST. SECRETARY BUFFUM'S

MARCH 10 DISCUSSION WITH OLCAY

SUMMARY: ASSISTANT SECRETARY BUFFUM MET FIRST MARCH 10 WITH TURKISH PERM REP OLCAY (AND DIRECTLY THEREAFTER WITH CLERIDES AND GREEK PERM REP CARAYANNIS--SEPTELS) TO DISCUSS POSSIBLE WAYS OF BREAKING CURRENT IMPASSE IN SC OVER CYPRUS RESOLUTION. OLCAY CLEARLY BELIEVED TURKEY'S INTERESTS WOULD NOT BE HARMED BY RESOLUTION WORDING DESCRIBING SYG'S ROLE IN NEW TALKS AS "DIRECTION, LEADERSHIP, ETC." IF IT WAS MADE CLEAR PARTIES WOULD HAVE TO CONCUR IN PRECISE NATURE OF SYG'S ROLE. AT SAME TIME, OLCAY INDICATED HE HAD EVEN LESS FLEXIIBILITY THAN USUAL BECAUSE HIS GOVERNMENT, IN CURRENT TRANSITION PERIOD, HAD TO CONSULT OPPOSITION PARTIES ON FORMULAS THEY MIGHT HAVE TO LIVE WITH. HE BELIEVED HE WOULD NOT RECEIVE FINAL INSTRUCTIONS WHILE SECRETARY WAS IN ANKARA. END SUMMARY.

1. MARCH 10 CONSULTATIONS BEGAN WITH 10 A.M. CALL BY BUFFUM ON OLCAY AT TURKISH MISSION. BUFFUM OPENED BY DESCRIBING
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OUR REPORT OF MACOMBER-HARTMAN DISCUSSION WITH ESENBEL EARLIER

IN DAY. (OLCAY RECEIVED REPORT OF MEETING DURING DISCUSSION WITH BUFFUM, WHICH CORRESPONDED CLOSELY WITH EMBASSY ANKARA'S MESSAGE.) BUFFUM EXPLAINED THAT SECRETARY WAS ANXIOUS NOT TO ALLOW PROBLEM OF SC RESOLUTION LANGUAGE TO INTERFERE WITH FAR MORE IMPORTANT MATTERS, BOTH ON CYPRUS AND BILATERAL ISSUES, WHICH HAD TO BE TAKEN UP DURING BRIEF DURATION OF HIS VISIT. OLCAY AGREED THAT SC PROBLEM MIGHT NOT IN ITSELF BE OVERLY IMPORTANT, BUT AN IRATE COUNCIL AND GREEK SIDE'S INTRANSIGENCE COULD SERIOUSLY INTERFERE WITH STEPS BEING TAKEN TO BRING PARTIES TOGETHER.

2. OLCAY ASKED WHAT THE SECRETARY'S THINKING WAS ON AN APPROPRIATE ROLE FOR SYG IN RESUMED NEGOTIATIONS. BUFFUM SAID SECRETARY WAS CONVINCED THAT SYG COULD DO NO MORE THAN WHAT BOTH PARTIES AGREED ON; INDEED THERE SHOULD BE CLEAR UNDERSTANDING OF THIS PRINCIPLE BY BOTH SIDES IF SYG WAS TO PLAY A PRODUCTIVE PART. BUFFUM ADDED THAT WE HAVE MADE IT CLEAR TO GREEKS AND CYPRIOTS THAT A MERE POLITICAL PROPAGANDA VICTORY IN SC SCORED THROUGH ADOPTION OF A CONTENTIOUS RESOLUTION WILL IMPEDE PROGRESS. ATHENS HAD AGREED TO WAIT UNTIL TUESDAY MORNING (NEW YORK TIME) BEFORE PRESSING FOR FINAL SC ACTION, AND WE BELIEVE IT WILL BE POSSIBLE TO AVOID SC GROUP CONSULTATIONS FOR THIS AFTERNOON. (CONSULTATIONS HAVE IN FACT BEEN CANCELLED.)

3. BUFFUM SUGGESTED GOT THINK HARD ABOUT FORMULA PROVIDING FOR "LEADERSHIP OF SYG WITH THE CONCURRENCE OF THE PARTIES," SINCE CLEAR MEANING WOULD BE THAT SYG COULD PLAY NO GREATER ROLE THAN AGREED TO BY TURKEY. OLCAY SAID BUFFUM WAS PREACHING TO THE CONVERTED; HE HAD HIMSELF FREQUENTLY MADE THIS POINT TO ANKARA, BUT TO NO AVAIL. THE THOUGHT ANKARA'S OPPOSITION TO THIS LANGUAGE STEMMED FROM FACT THAT PRESENT TURKISH GOVERNMENT WAS EVEN MORE TRANSITIONAL THAN IT HAD BEEN. WITH PRESIDENT ASKING PREMIER TO FORM A NEW GOVERNMENT, PRESENT ADMINISTRATION COULD NOT AGREE TO FORMULA THAT ITS SUCCESSOR COULD NOT ACCEPT. BUFFUM STRESSED THAT "CONCURRENCE OF PARTIES" FORMULA COMPLETELY PROTECTED SUCCESSOR GOVERNMENT AS WELL AS PRESENT ADMINISTRATION.

4. OLCAY COMMENTED THAT WHILE ANKARA TOTALLY OPPOSED TANZANIAN FORMULA "(SYG CHAIRMANSHIP WITH THE CONSENT OF THE PARTIES"),
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HE FIRST HAD IMPRESSION THAT ANKARA WAS SERIOUSLY CONSIDERING WALDHIEM'S SUGGESTION THAT TALKS BE UNDER "PATRONAGE" OR "AUSPICES" OF SYG. NOW, HOWEVER, ANKARA SEEMED TO BE HAVING SECOND THOUGHTS. IN ANY EVENT, OLCAY SAID HE DOUBTED HE WOULD RECEIVE FINAL INSTRUCTIONS UNTIL AFTER SECRETARY KISSINGER HAD LEFT ANKARA.

5. AT THIS POINT, OLCAY RECEIVED REPORT FROM ESENBEL OF HIS

DISCUSSION WITH MACOMBER AND HARTMAN. ESENBEL INDICATED THAT HE HAD AGREED TO WORDING DESCRIBING SYG'S ROLE AS "PERSONAL CLOSE INTEREST AND CONTRIBUTION OF SYG," OMITTING ANY REFERENCE TO "WITH THE CONSENT OF THE PARTIES." OLCAY WAS CLEARLY SURPRISED AT THIS OMISSION, BUT WAS NOT INCLINED TO OBJECT TO INCREASED FLEXIBILITY IT GAVE HIM. OLCAY ALSO WAS REASSURED BY FACT SYG HAD INDICATED HE WOULD COMMIT HIMSELF IN WRITING NOT TO PLAY A MEDIATORY ROLE. BUFFUM COMMENTED THAT IMPORTANT THING WAS FOR PARTIES TO AGREE ON PRECISE NATURE OF SYG'S CONTRIBUTION. THIS COULD BE DONE IN LETTER FROM SYG OR INTERPRETATIVE STATEMENT BY SC PRESIDENT, BUT DID NOT HAVE TO BE EMBEDDED IN RESOLUTION ITSELF.

6. OLCAY CONCLUDED BY ASKING THAT BUFFUM SEE TURK CYPRIOT REPRESENTATIVE CHELIK WHILE HE WAS CONSULTING WITH OTHER PARTIES. BUFFUM SAID HE WOULD TAKE OLCAY'S REQUEST UNDER ADVISEMENT.
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